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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

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MEMORANDUM FOR: NIO/SP
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FROM: Fritz W. Ermarth
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SUBJECT: Soviet Military Thinking

1. At our discussion of a week or so ago, we considered the possibility that some Soviet military leaders were pushing for fresh examination of current military policy and doctrine. There seemed to be such a plea in Gareev's book on Frunze. I submit to you an even more striking plea from Gareev (Voyeno-istoricheskiy zhurnal, 7/85, p. 29):

"We may now speak of a critical stage in the development of military science and military art in the most developed countries. Overall, a new qualitative jump is taking shape in military affairs, connected both with the further perfection of nuclear weapons, and especially with the appearance in the NATO countries of new forms of highly accurate conventional weapons. In connection with this it becomes necessary to rethink the fundamental military-political and operational-strategic problems of the defense of the socialist fatherland."

2. Colonel General M.A. Gareev is a deputy chief of the Soviet General Staff and a doctor of military science. The rest of the article is worth reading.


Fritz W. Ermarth


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